

Message Text

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ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11
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C O N F I D E N T I A L MANILA 07318

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINT, SHUM, RP
SUBJECT: ELECTION AFTERMATH: LABAN LEGAL PROBLEMS CON-
- TINUE; SECTORAL ELECTIONS COMPLETED; CEBU COUNT
- STOPPED

REF: MANILA 6818

1. SUMMARY: ARRESTED LABAN LEADERS HAVE REFUSED TO DEFEND THEMSELVES IN MILITARY HEARING AND ARE PETITIONING FOR CIVILIAN JURISDICTION. ONE LABAN LEADER HAS BEEN RELEASED. AN ARREST WARRANT FOR TRINIDAD HERRERA HAS BEEN REQUESTED, AND TWO APPARENT LABAN WORKERS HAVE BEEN ARRESTED. THE 14 SECTORAL REPRESENTATIVES IN THE LEGISLATURE HAVE BEEN DULY CHOSEN. THE SUPREME COURT HAS ORDERED THE CENTRAL VISAYAS VOTE COUNT SUSPENDED WHILE IT LOOKS INTO THE CONTINUING DONNYBROOK THERE. END SUMMARY.

2. LABAN FORTUNES. DURING THE PAST WEEK, GOP ACTIONS AGAINST OPPOSITION LABAN CANDIDATES AND PARTY WORKERS HAVE CONTINUED:

- -- ACCORDING TO MANILA PRESS MAY 1, THE EIGHT LABAN LEADERS ARRESTED APRIL 9 HAVE REFUSED TO PRESENT A DEFENSE TO MILITARY PANEL HOLDING SPECIAL PRELIMINARY INVESTIGATION.
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TION OF THEIR CASE. THEY HAVE PETITIONED INSTEAD TO HAVE CASE TRANSFERRED TO CIVILIAN JURISDICTION. MILITARY PANEL WILL DECIDE ON THEIR PETITION LATER THIS WEEK.

- -- ASSOCIATE PRESS MAY 3 REPORTED THAT FRANCISCO RODRIGO, JR., SON OF LABAN CANDIDATE EX-SENATOR RODRIGO, WAS RELEASED MAY 2. RODRIGO, JR. WAS DETAINED WITH HIS

FATHER IN LABAN'S APRIL 9 PROTEST MARCH. SIX OTHERS, I.E. FOUR LABAN CANDIDATES, ONE PARTY LAWYER, AND A JESUIT PRIEST, REMAIN IN DETENTION; PARTY LEADER TANADA WAS RELEASED EARLIER.

- -- MILITARY PROSECUTORS OF CASE OF LABAN CANDIDATE TRINIDAD HERRERA REQUESTED A MILITARY COURT ORDER FOR HER IMMEDIATE ARREST MAY 3. THEY SAID THEY HAD TRIED TO SERVE "COMPLAINT SHEET" CHARGING HER WITH SUBVERSION AND POSSESSION OF SUBVERSIVE DOCUMENTS (MANILA 6263) BUT HAVE FAILED TO LOCATE HER.

- -- QUEZON CITY POLICE ARRESTED TWO MEN ACCUSED OF PRINTING AND DISTRIBUTING SEDITIOUS POSTERS AND "POISON CHAIN LETTERS" MAY 3. THE TWO WERE IDENTIFIED AS GREGORIO CONCEPCION, 40, AND ISAGANI LLEDO, 24, ALLEGEDLY A COMMUNIST PARTY COURIER. THEY ARE TWO OF 12 "LABOR LEADERS" NAMED IN AN ARREST ORDER SIGNED BY DEFENSE SECRETARY ENRILE APRIL 29. PRESS REPORTS DESCRIBE THEM AS ORGANIZERS OF LABAN'S APRIL 9 PROTEST MARCH AND OTHER ILLEGAL MEETINGS.

3. SECTORAL ELECTIONS. FOURTEEN REPS OF YOUTH AND AGRICULTURAL AND INDUSTRIAL LABOR WERE CHOSEN BY SECTORAL ELECTORS IN MANILA APRIL 27. FORMER HUK LEADER LUIS TARUC IS THE BEST KNOWN OF THE WINNERS; HE WILL BE ONE OF TWO
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LUZON AGRICULTURAL LABOR REPS. THE ONLY REAL CONTESTS WERE FOR THE OTHER LUZON AGRICULTURAL REP AND THE MINDANAO INDUSTRIAL LABOR REP (A MUSLIM PRINCESS). THEY EACH WON BY ONE VOTE OVER CANDIDATES SUPPORTED BY THE MAYORS AND GOVERNORS. (COMMENT: THE PURPOSE OF HAVING SECTORAL MEMBERS OF THE INTERIM LEGISLATURE IS TO ASSURE THAT THOSE WHO MIGHT BE LEFT OUT IN POPULAR ELECTIONS ARE REPRESENTED NONE OF THE WINNING LABOR CANDIDATES, HOWEVER, HAVE RECENTLY HAD DIRTY FINGERNAILS, AND THE YOUTH REPS ARE ALL PROVINCIAL LEADERS IN THE GOVERNMENT-SPONSORED KABATANG BARANGAY YOUTH MOVEMENT. END COMMENT.)

4. CEBU VOTE COUNT. AFTER COMELEC'S DECISION TO RESUME COUNTING THE DISPUTED ELECTION TALLY SHEETS FROM NEGROS ORIENTAL AND PARTS OF CEBU PROVINCES, THE LEADING PUSYON BISAYA PARTY TOOK ITS COMPLAINT TO THE SUPREME COURT. THE COURT MAY 1 ORDERED THE VOTE COUNT POSTPONED WHILE IT LOOKS INTO PB CHARGES THAT THESE TALLY SHEETS MAY HAVE BEEN ALTERED. CONSULATE CEBU COMMENTS THAT THE SAFEST PREDICTION IS THAT A FEW KBL WINNERS WILL EMERGE, BUT VIRTUALLY ANY OUTCOME IS POSSIBLE IN THIS CONFUSED SITUATION. STULL

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